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Richard D. Dettinger

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/753,520
Filing Date: January 08, 2004
Appellant(s): DETTINGER ET AL.

Gero G. McClellan
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed June 25, 2007 appealing from the Office
action mailed January 25, 2007.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

2003/0037069

DAVISON

2-2003

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-15, 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Davison (US 2003/0037069 A1), hereinafter "Davison".

Claim 1.

Davison discloses:

A computer-implemented method for generating a transactional database statement based on an existing database statement, comprising [pre-generated database queries, Para 0069]:

 parsing the existing database statement to identify fields and corresponding field attributes (The library of pre-generated query are parsed to identify particular query name and location) [Para 0065-0071];

 utilizing one or more interfaces for receiving input regarding the transactional database statement (interface for selecting URL and update, insert) [Para 0065, 0096];
and

 generating the transactional database statement based on the identified fields and user input [database queries, Para 0068-0070].

Claim 2.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 1 as above and furthermore it discloses wherein the transactional database statement is one of:

 an insert statement, an update statement, and a delete statement [insert, update, SQL, Para 0091, 0096].

Claim 3.

The method of claim 2, wherein generating the transactional database statement based on the identified fields and user input comprises [Para 0063, 0077]:

generating a transactional database statement with one or more of the identified fields [generate query, Para 0069, 0070]; and

populating one or more of the fields with input received via the one or more interfaces (interface to allow a table to be loaded (populate fields)) [Para 0096].

Claim 4.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 1 as above and furthermore it discloses

attaining metadata regarding one or more of the identified fields (information about data) [Para 0062].

Claim 5.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 1 as above and furthermore it discloses

wherein utilizing the one or more interfaces comprises:

generating at least one graphical user interface for receiving input from a user, wherein the graphical user interface allows the user to specify one or more records to affect with the transactional database statement [parameter screen, editor screen, Para 0092, 0095].

Claim 6.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 5 as above and furthermore it discloses

wherein utilizing the one or more interfaces further comprises:

issuing a query to retrieve data related to at least one record specified by the user via the graphical user interface [Para 0088-0089]; and

displaying the data retrieved in the graphical user interface [returned results, Para 0088-0089].

Claim 7.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 6 as above and furthermore it discloses

wherein:

the transactional database statement is an update statement [SQL, save, Para 0091];

the graphical user interface allows the user to make changes to at least a portion of the retrieved data [query editor screen, Para 0091]; and

submit the changes to the database via the transactional database statement [SQL, save, 0091].

Claim 8.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 7 as above and furthermore it discloses,

wherein:

the graphical user interface allows the make changes data related to more than one record [Para 0091, 0095]; and

submit the changes to the database via the transactional database statement [Para 0091, 0095].

Claim 9.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 5 as above and furthermore it discloses providing the user access to the graphical user interface screen via a plug-in component to an application [stand alone package (plug-in), Para 0069].

Claim 10.

Claim 10 is essentially the same as claim 1 except that it recites "computer readable storage medium" and as such it is rejected for them same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claim 11.

Claim 11 is essentially the same as claim 2 except that it recites "computer readable medium" and as such it is rejected for them same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claim 12.

Claim 12 is essentially the same as claim 3 except that it recites "computer

readable medium" and as such it is rejected for them same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claim 13.

Claim 13 is essentially the same as claim 5 except that it recites "computer readable medium" and as such it is rejected for them same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claim 14.

Claim 14 is essentially the same as claim 6 except that it recites "computer readable medium" and as such it is rejected for them same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claim 15.

Davison discloses:

A data processing system comprising:

a processor [Fig. 11]

a database [Fig 10];

an existing query statement residing in storage [pre-generated database queries, Para 0069];

a query interface allowing users to issue query statements against the database [query editor, Para 0085]; and

a transaction manager which, when executed by the processor, is configured to generate a transactional statement against the database based on fields and corresponding field attributes of the existing query statement [database queries, Para 0068-0069]

wherein the transaction manager is configured to generate the transactional statement against the database by:

parsing the existing database statement to identify the fields and corresponding field attributes (The library of pre-generated query are parsed to identify particular query name and location) [Para 0070];

generating one or more interfaces for receiving input regarding the transactional statement (interface for update, insert) [Para 0065, 0096]; and

generating the transactional database statement based on the identified fields and user input [database queries, Para 0068-0070].

Claim 17.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 15 as above and furthermore it discloses, wherein the transaction manager is configured to attain, from the database, metadata for use in generating the transactional statement (information about data) [Para 0062].

Claim 18.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 15 as above and furthermore it

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discloses one or more plug-in components allowing access to the one or more interfaces from the query interface [stand alone package (plug-in), Para 0069],

Claim 19.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 18 as above and furthermore it discloses wherein the one or more plug-in components provide access to an interface for entering input to be used in an insert transactional statement [stand alone package (plug-in), editor, Para 0069].

Claim 20.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 18 as above and furthermore it discloses, wherein the one or more plug-in components provide access to an interface for updating a record [update, Para 0096, 0101].

Claim 21.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 20 as above and furthermore it discloses, wherein the one or more plug-in components provide access to an interface for updating multiple records [update, Para 0096, 0101].

Claim 22.

Davison discloses the elements of claim 20 as above and furthermore it discloses, wherein the database is one of:

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a relational database, an object-relational database, an XML database, and a relational database [database, XML data, relational database system, Para 0177, 0178].

(10) Response to Argument

The Cited Reference : Davison (US 2003/0037069 A1)

The Examiner agrees with appellant's characterization of the Davison reference (Appeal Brief page 10). In Davison, a request is received containing information that identifies data to be retrieved. The request comprises information that identifies a pre-generated database query stored on a server. The request comprises a uniform resource locator (URL) which includes information that points to a file or directory containing the pre-generated query. The URL may be parsed to extract a query identifier and the query is located by parsing a library file to locate the particular query specified in the request. The query is then used to query a database.

The following is the mapping between two main claimed elements and Davison's teaching:

Claimed elements	Davison
transactional database statement	<p>a request containing information that identifies data to be retrieved</p> <p>[0065] In a preferred embodiment, the request comprises information that identifies a pre-generated database query, the query being stored on the server 110. An exemplary request comprises a URL taking the following form:</p> <p>[0066] <code>http://(hostspec)/mle-cgi/xml?(queryname)</code></p>
existing database statement	<p>pre-generated query</p> <p>[0069] In this embodiment, an administrator pre-generates a set of database queries and stores those queries on the server. The administrator can use a variety of ways to create these queries. The administrator can manually write the queries. The administrator can also use a query design tool to generate the query in the query language, from a higher</p>

Response to appellant's arguments

Appellant argued that Davison does not teach "parsing the existing database statement to identify fields and corresponding field attributes" because Davison teaches parsing a library file, and not a query. On the contrary, Davison teaches at [0070] that the pre-generated queries are created and stored in separate files on the server or a single file could contain a library of related queries. Davison therefore teaches a library file contains pre-generated database statement, and parsing the library file is same as parsing the pre-generated database statement.

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[0070] Once the queries are created, they are stored on the server. In a preferred embodiment, the queries are stored in separate files on the server. This allows the enabler agent to locate the proper query quickly and easily, when the enabler agent is presented with a URL containing the keyword associated with the query, as discussed above. Queries can also be stored in other formats; for example, a single file could contain a library of related queries. The enabler agent in this example would parse the library file to locate the particular query specified in the request.

Appellant further argued that Davison does not teach "generating the transactional database statement based on the identified fields and user input", the examiner respectfully disagrees.

First, appellant argued that "the cited section states that the query name and location are obtained **from a URL, and not from a query**". On the contrary, Davison at [0056] that the request comprises a URL, therefore, the URL itself is a request or a query which is used to retrieved data from a database.

[0065] In a preferred embodiment, **the request comprises information that identifies a pre-generated database query**, the query being stored on the server 110. **An exemplary request comprises a URL** taking the following form:

[0066] `http://(hostspec)/mle-cgi/xml?(queryname)`

As discussed above, the examiner mapped Davison's "request" to the claimed "transactional database statement"; Davison also teaches at Fig. 7 an user interface which allows user to select particular query (URL) via a pull-down menu 74.

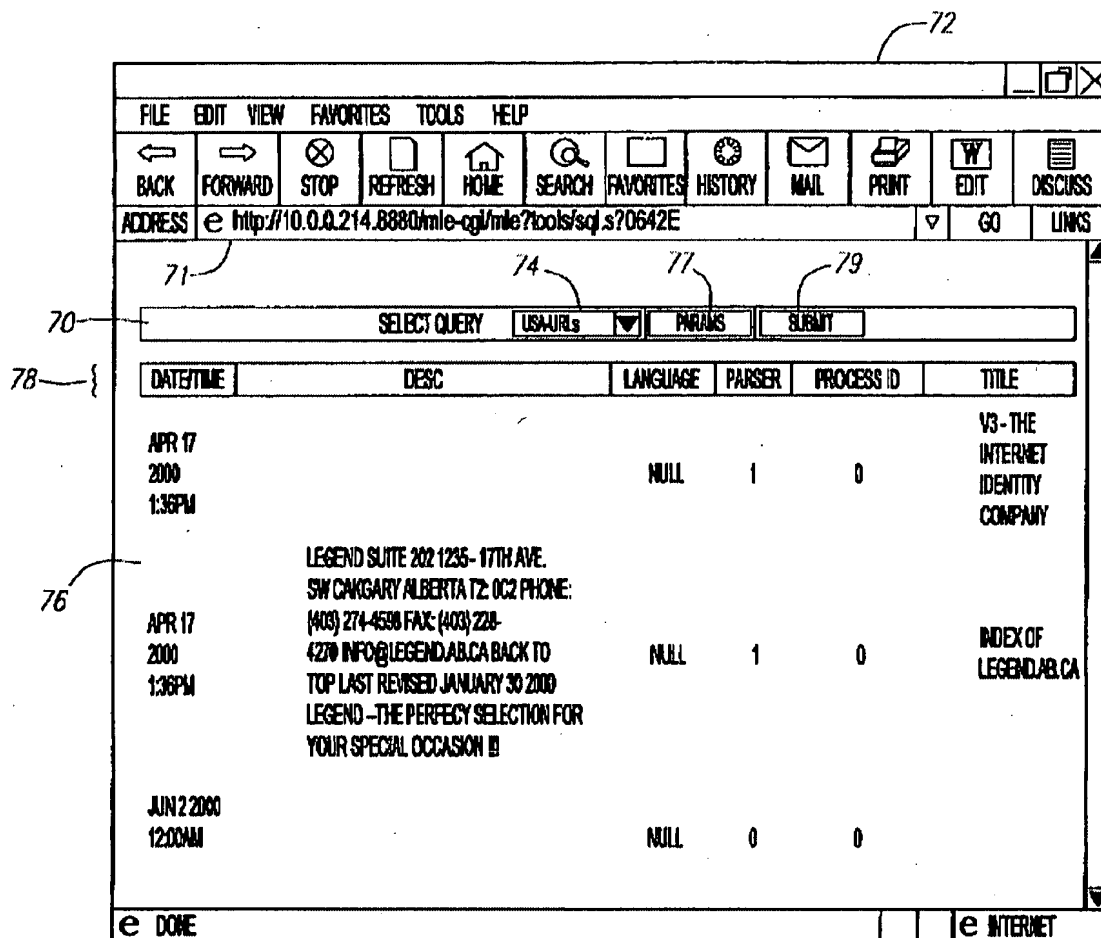


FIG. 7

Second, appellant argued that “the **query name and location** obtained from the URL described a file name and location of a file in which a pre-generated query is stored, and **do not refer to fields** of the pre-generated query”. The examiner respectfully submits that query name and location of a file in which a pre-generated query is stored are fields of the pre-generated query, simply because they are attributes of the pre-generated query. Davison teaches [0068] that the query name (queryname) is a value that uniquely identifies the particular database query that the

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request seeks to invoke (i.e., pre-generated query) and (queryname) value is an arbitrary identifier or keyword that mapped to a query stored on the server.

[0068] In this URL, (queryname) is a value that uniquely identifies the particular database query that the request seeks to invoke. The (queryname) value is an arbitrary identifier or keyword that is mapped to a query stored on the server. An exemplary mapping scheme comprises storing each query in a separate file, and referencing the query in the URL by providing the name the file it is stored in the (queryname) section of the URL. For example, the bicycle manufacturer data model discussed above would have **queries named "PartsByPrice", which retrieves the entire parts table sorted by price, and "BicycleParts", which retrieves all records in the parts table that correspond to parts used in bicycles.**

Further, as seen in paragraph [0069] above, Davison teaches an example of query name comprising fields of the database table, namely "parts" and "Price", which reflects the filed of the Parts database table shown at Fig. 2B.

PARTS				
KEY	FKEY	PART #	DESC.	PRICE
1	1	12	BICYCLE FRAME	\$85
2	1	16	BICYCLE WHEEL	\$20
3	1	19	FRONT BRAKE	\$18
4	2	4	FRONT WHEEL	\$32
5	2	13	SEAT	\$50
6	3	36	POST SEAT	\$8
7	3	17	TIRE	\$20
8	4	42	SEAT	\$50

FIG. 2B

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For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

Respectfully submitted,

Khanh B. Pham

Primary Examiner

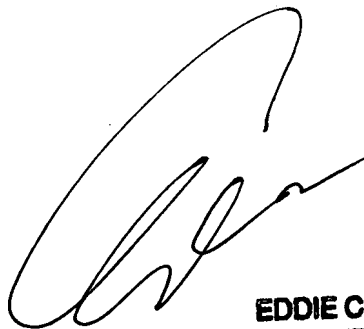


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